

NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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THIRD CO-DEFENDANT PLEADS GUILTY IN COCAINE, MARIJUANA CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Detroit, Mich., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to his role in a conspiracy to transport cocaine and marijuana from Los Angeles, Calif., to Detroit through Greene County, Mo.

Dewey Rambin, 23, of Detroit, pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute five grams or more of crack cocaine, 500 grams or more of cocaine, and less than 50 kilograms of marijuana.

By pleading guilty, **Rambin** admitted that he committed the narcotics violation beginning Feb. 22, 2002, until Feb. 28, 2002, in Greene County. Specifically, he and his co-defendants agreed to obtain the controlled substances from the Los Angeles area. In total, **Rambin** and his co-defendants obtained 1,985 grams of cocaine, 6.5 grams of crack cocaine and 2,217 grams of marijuana. In transporting the narcotics back to Detroit, the three co-defendants were stopped by the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Co-defendants **Dwan Ford**, 34, and **Tracy Thompson**, 43, both of Detroit, also have pleaded guilty to their role in the conspiracy.

On March 17, 2003, **Ford** was sentenced to 18 years and four months in federal prison without parole. On Aug. 27, 2003, **Thompson** was sentenced to three years probation.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Rambin** may be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole and up to 40 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$2 million. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Robyn L. McKee. It was investigated by the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow